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Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530


Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

The settlement reached between Microsoft and the Department of Justice, appears to be fair. It is my strong belief that at this point additional litigation will not help anyone, including the States that are seeking to continue suit. It is now time to settle and move on.

Microsoft has agreed to a number of terms and conditions, all of which restrict monopolistic behavior and promote competition within the technology industry. Microsoft will refrain from engaging in retaliatory behavior should software developers and computer makers introduce a product into the market that directly competes with Microsoft technology. Microsoft has also agreed to license its Windows operating system to twenty of the largest computer makers on identical terms and conditions, including price, and to grant them broad rights to reconfigure Windows to their own specifications.

I do not believe additional action is necessary on the federal level. The proposed settlement is equally beneficial to Microsoft and its competitors, and a cessation of litigation would most definitely be beneficial to the consumer. I urge you to give your support to the settlement.

Sincerely,



Michel G. Bernard
President.